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### ***Prosecutor Asks Action Against Convict's Book***

TAMPA, Fla., March 13 (AP) — A United States Attorney, Gary Betz, has called on the Justice Department to stop Joseph G. Helmich Jr., who has been convicted of selling military information to the Soviet Union, "from profiting from his espionage activities" by selling a book.

Mr. Helmich, a former Army warrant officer, confessed at his trial last year. But now he says that he was secretly working for a Federal agency all along. He is serving a life prison term.

In a letter published Thursday by The Florida Times-Union, Jacksonville, Mr.

Helmich said he intended to publish a book outside the United States by mid-July, a year after his arrest, giving details on the "many assignments I was directed to perform for this agency."

On Thursday, Mr. Betz said, "There are no facts to substantiate Helmich was working for a U.S. agency at any time. The only undercover work he was doing was for his Russian spy masters."

The Federal prosecutor said that he had called on the civil division of the Justice Department "to look into all legal avenues" of preventing Mr. Helmich "from profiting from his criminal and traitorous acts."

The material Mr. Helmich admitted turning over to Soviet agents for \$131,000 provided data on a secret cipher machine, code lists and instructions.